

Serial No.: 09/882,138
Docket No.: 26769-01A

Examiner: J. Amini
Art Unit: 2672

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-10, and 12-40 are currently pending in this application, and claims 1, 3, 19, and 20 have been amended.

Claims 1 and 19 have been amended to affirmatively recite that the second image segment is printed after the first image segment has been printed. Because claims 22 and 28 already include this recitation, Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment does not raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search and does not raise the issue of new matter. Claims 3 and 20 merely change “whereby” to “wherein” and also do not require further consideration and/or search or raise the issue of new matter. Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-10, and 12-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanno et al. in view of Ohnishi et al.

With respect to claims 1, 19, 22, and 28, the Examiner asserts that Applicants do not specify that the first and second image segments are printed at different times from each other. While Applicants believe that the disclosure and the claims clearly indicate that the first image segment is printed before the second image segment (claims 22 and 28 clearly recite this sequence), in the interest of furthering prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 19 to recite that after printing the first image segment, the second image segment is printed. Thus, it is clear that the printing steps occur sequentially and not at the same time.

Applicants respectfully submit that Kanno does not describe or suggest printing a first image segment on a first region of a photosensitive substrate and then printing the second image segment on a second region of the photosensitive substrate as affirmatively recited in amended claims 1 and 19. As set forth in Kanno beginning at column 25, line 45, once all of the documents that make up the final image are stored in memory, a composite image is generated and the composite image is then printed by the printer

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section. Thus, Kanno only describes generating and printing a composite image, and does not describe or suggest printing one section and then printing a second section. Furthermore, Ohnishi does not print a first image segment and then a second image segment as recited in the claimed invention, but only stores the image segments in memory and then prints the "composite" image on the substrate.

Claims 22 and 28 have not been amended as these claims already affirmatively recited that the first image segment is printed and then (after indexing the printing device and the photosensitive surface relative to one another) the second image segment is printed. As discussed above, this feature is not described or suggested by either Kanno or Ohnishi. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not shown that the references describe or suggest the features of the pixel counter, integrator, multiplier, and intensity modulator affirmatively recited in these claims.

Because claims 1, 19, 22, and 28 are believed to be allowable over the prior art of record for the reasons provide above, claims 3-4, 6-10, 11-18, 20-21, 23-27, and 29-40 which depend directly or indirectly from these claims are also believed to be allowable over the prior art of record. Applicants also respectfully disagree with the assertions made by the Examiner regarding many of the rejected dependent claims. For the purpose of streamlining prosecution, these claims are not discussed in detail, but Applicants reserve all rights to continue to dispute the teachings of the references as they pertain to these claims.

For all of these reasons, it is believed that 1, 3-4, 6-10, and 12-40 are patentable over the teachings of Kanno in view of Ohnishi. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-4, 6-10, and 12-40 as being unpatentable over Kanno in view of Ohnishi is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant has made a sincere and diligent effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

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However, if any issues still remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned to resolve such issues and/or enter this Amendment in the application file in order to place this application in better condition for appeal.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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